

Afro-American Courier

MOTTO:—"LET DOWN YOUR BUCKET WHERE YOU ARE"

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NO. 3.

THE THIRD GRAND LODGE MAKES HISTORY FOR AFROS

**Session of Afro-American Sons and
Daughters, Held in Clarksdale,
Miss., August 15, 16 17, 1928,
Now a Matter of History.**

Sinister Propaganda.

The Executive Board of the Grand Lodge held an important session at 10 o'clock a. m., prior to the opening of the Grand Lodge.

Promptly at 10 o'clock a. m., President A. Banks called the Executive Board to order, and a roll call found every member of the Board present. The general program of the Grand Lodge which had been gotten up by the Custodian furnished a subject for much discussion. However, after going over the program, the Board recommended the program to the Grand Lodge as a rule of action for the big meeting. It was found that the Custodian had gotten out a very splendid program, as it pointed the way for advancement and harmony of the Grand Lodge. Among other things which claimed attention of the Board, was a great deal of sinister propaganda, evidently intended to hinder the growth and prosperity of the Order by the creation of suspicion as to the righteous management of the affairs of the Order among its members. This propaganda was set forth in a circular letter and was distributed among the delegates, who had come from every nook and corner of the State, as well as the States of Arkansas and Louisiana.

In order that this delicate matter would be amicably adjusted so as to save the integrity of the order as well as to save the parties re-

sponsible for this unfair play with the delegates a committee was appointed by the Board for the selfsame purpose. A committee coolly and sanely went about this task and reported a way of settlement and adjustment which was unanimously agreed to by both the Board and the party directly responsible. Other minor matters were attended to by the Board, and the President adjourned the Board to open the Grand Lodge at 1:30 p. m.

Grand Lodge Formally Opened.

The Grand Lodge was formally opened, the program read and adopted as a rule of action. By this time the spacious auditorium of the Metropolitan Baptist Church was crowded with the delegates. The President noted the many new faces present as delegates, and ordered that all new delegates would occupy the east side of the auditorium. It was clearly seen by the "Old Timers" that the delegates had increased over the last year by more than a 100 per cent. Fervent prayer was offered by W. J. Wilson, who was one of the most successful organizers of the Order.

Our Custodian, Prof. T. J. Huddleston, came forward and intensified the organization of the Grand Lodge by the appointment or announcement of several important committees together with those appointed by the President.

President Banks Double-crosses Himself.

At this juncture President Banks broke his agreement with the Executive Board, in the matter of allowing the Executive Board a chance to adjust and settle the controversy between him and the Custodian as previously agreed in the Board meeting. He brought his fight to the floor of the Grand Lodge to the utter surprise of every member of the Board. For this act he was branded by friends and foes as unfaithful, untrue, and a covenant-breaker in the true sense of the word. The fight thus opened, the Custo-